

## Notice of VLGS Amendment to the Academic Regulations

Effective:	Thursday, January 9, 2025
Students Effected:	Effective immediately upon approval by faculty.
Amendment Type:	Revised Academic Regulations
Academic Regulation:	Bar Topics

### Amendment Description:

In sum, the proposed amendments:

- add the bar Examination Skills and Tactics (BEST) course as a requirement for all JD students, and change the grading structure to a letter grade for this course; and
- add Criminal Procedure II to the list of Bar Courses; and
- change the JD and American Legal Studies dismissal GPA threshold from a 1.5 to 1.75 following the first semester.

### NEW LANGUAGE

Amend academic regulation section III.A.2.a with the changes in red below.

Of the 87 semester hours required for the degree, satisfactory completion of the following courses is required: Appellate Advocacy; Civil Procedure; Constitutional Law; Contracts; Criminal Law; Legislation and Regulation; Embedded Racism in the Law; Evidence; Professional Responsibility; Legal Research and Writing, Legal Writing II: Theory and Practice, Property, Torts; and **Bar Examination Skills and Tactics. Bar Examination Skills and Tactics shall only be taken after completing 60 credits as a Juris Doctor Candidate.**

Foundational classes are: Civil Procedure; Torts; Contracts; Legal Research and Writing; Legal Writing II: Theory and Practice; Appellate Advocacy; Legislation and Regulation; Constitutional Law; Property; and Criminal Law. These classes must be completed within the first 60 credits as a Juris Doctor candidate.

Satisfactory completion of two of the following courses is also required: Business Associations; Criminal Procedure (either Constitutional Criminal Procedure or Criminal Practice and Procedure) **or Criminal Procedure II**; and First Amendment Law.

*Proposed adopted date: immediately upon approval by faculty*

*Proposed effective date: immediately for students matriculating after summer semester 2024*

Amend academic regulation section III.E.2.b with the changes in red below.

A student who is on academic probation at the end of the first semester is required to take Legal Methods in place of one doctrinal class in the second semester. A student who is on academic probation at the end of the first semester is also required to complete the second semester of JD courses, including Legal Methods, before enrolling in upper division courses. A student who is on academic probation at the end of the first, second or third semester is required to take the following courses to obtain the JD degree: Business Associations, ~~as well as~~ Criminal Procedure or Constitutional Criminal Procedure, ~~and Bar Exam Skills and Tactics (BEST). Students shall take BEST during their last semester.~~

*Proposed adopted date: immediately upon approval by faculty*

*Proposed effective date: immediately for students matriculating after summer semester 2024*

Amend academic regulation section III.E.5.b with the changes in red below.

A student in EIS is required to take the following courses to obtain the JD degree: Business Associations, ~~as well as~~ Criminal Procedure or Constitutional Criminal Procedure, ~~and Bar Exam Skills and Tactics (BEST). Students shall take BEST during their last semester.~~ A student who is in EIS will be assigned a Faculty Mentor and must meet with the Faculty Mentor regularly until graduation. The exact meeting schedule and requirements will be determined by the Faculty Mentor.

*Proposed adopted date: immediately upon approval by faculty*

*Proposed effective date: immediately for students matriculating after May 1, 2024*

Amend academic regulation section II.C.3 with the changes in red below.

~~Bar Examination Skills and Tactics~~

*Proposed adopted date: immediately upon approval by faculty*

*Proposed effective date: summer semester 2025*

Amend academic regulation section III.E.3.a with the changes in red below.

A student will be dismissed from the school if:

(2) the student's cumulative average at the end of the first semester is at or below ~~1.50~~ 1.75; or

*Proposed adopted date: immediately upon approval by faculty*

*Proposed effective date: for students matriculating after May 1, 2025*

Amend academic regulation section IX.H.3 with the changes in red below.

**(b) Academic Probation**

A student will be placed on academic probation if, at the end of the first semester, the student's cumulative average is between ~~1.50~~ 1.75 and 2.30.

**(c) Academic Dismissal**

A student will be dismissed from the School if:

(2) The student's cumulative average at the end of the first semester is at or below ~~1.50~~ 1.75; or

*Proposed adopted date: immediately upon approval by faculty*

*Proposed effective date: for students matriculating after May 1, 2025*